(c) if so, whether emphasis would be laid to enhance the wage bargaining capacity of these employees; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Review of industrial relations between the management and workers and updation of legislative framework governing them is a continuous process and is undertaken by the appropriate Governments as applicable. Whenever the grievance of any category of workers including contract workforce are received, these are addressed as per legal provisions, by the appropriate Governments having jurisdiction over the particular industrial unit concerned with regard to the Labour Laws concerned. Where collective wage agreements are not in position, the minimum wages fixed by the appropriate Governments concerned for various categories of workers are applicable.

(d) Does not arise.

Cases pending before RLCs in Gujarat

581. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many Regional Labour Commissioners are working to look into the complaints received from registered trade unions in various public sector undertakings of Central Government in Gujarat;

(b) whether the above officers are sufficient to look into the heavy pending cases in the various offices of the Labour Commissioners at Surat, Baroda, Ahmedabad, Rajkot and other such places in Gujarat;

(c) whether it is a fact that the post of Chairman, in particular the Central Industrial Tribunal has not been filled by Government for the last many years; and

(d) if so, the details of conciliation proceedings pending as on 31st March, 2008 in various R.L.Cs all over the Gujarat State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) There is one post of Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) in Gujarat at Ahmedabad. Further, there are three posts of Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central) in Gujarat one each at Ahmedabad, Baroda and Adipur (Kutch) and five posts of Labour Enforcement Officers (Central) in Gujarat one each at Rajkot, Adipur, Baroda and two at Ahmedabad.

(b) The present strength of these officers in Gujarat is as approved in the cadre restructuring done in 2004.

(c) The Central Government has constituted 22 Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts in the country. Each Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court is presided over by a Presiding Officer. In the State of Gujarat, the Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court is in Ahmedabad. The post of the Presiding Officer in that court is vacant from 31.05.2006.

(d) Details of industrial disputes pending before Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Ahmedabad, Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Ahmedabad, Baroda and Adipur is given below:

RLC(C), Ahmedabad	:	11		
ALC(C), Ahmedabad			:	165
ALC(C), Baroda			:	89
ALC(C), Adipur (Kutch)			:	72

Employment opportunities

†582.SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of employment opportunities generated by Government during the last four years; and

(b) the details of the plans and schemes launched with a view to provide employment to the unemployed persons during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) As per two most recent quinquennial rounds of surveys of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) on employment and unemployment, employment opportunities on Current Daily Status basis have been estimated at 338.19 million in 1999-2000 (55th round) and 384.91 million in 2004-05 (61st round). Thus, 46.72 million job opportunities were generated during this period.

(b) The 11th Plan document approved by National Development Council has projected that 58 million job opportunities on Current Daily Status are likely to be created during the 11th Plan period. Besides, Government of India is implementing various special employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes in both rural and urban areas to increase employment opportunities. Some of the important ones which have undergone major changes during the current financial year are:-

(i) National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA) was enacted on 7.9.2005. NREGA provides for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas by providing atleast 100 days of guaranteed employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. NREGA has been extended throughout the country with effect from 1.4.2008. The scheme of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) has also been subsumed in NREGA w.e.f. 1.4.2008.

(ii) Government of India has approved the introduction of a new credit- linked subsidy programme called Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) by merging the two schemes that were in operation till 31.03.2008, namely, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) for generation of employment opportunities through establishment of micro enterprises in rural as well as urban areas.

Casual workers appointed in Central Government Offices and CPSUs

583. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of casual workers appointed in various Central Government offices and in CPSUs from 2004 to 2007 each year separately;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi